THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMIC MAGAZINE!
Fantastic Four
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
12¢ IND.
65 AUG
FROM THE DEADLY LIPS OF.. RONAN:
"I ACCUSE!"

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Throw your voice into trunks, behind doors, everywhere. Instrument fits in your mouth and out of sight. Fool teacher, friends and family. Free book on "How to Become a Ventriloquist." No. 137 25¢
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YOU, WHO HAVE BEEN ASLEEP-- NEED MY WORDS!
I AM SPEAKING TO YOU IN THE MOST DIRECT MANNER POSSIBLE!
--THRU YOUR OWN, MORTAL BRAINS!
MY NAME WOULD BE UTTERLY MEANINGLESS TO YOU--
--BUT I AM THE LIVING EMBODIMENT OF POWER--FOR I AM THE SUPREME INTELLIGENCE OF THE MAJESTIC RACE OF THE KREE!
BY PIECING TOGETHER THE FRAIL FABRIC OF THE PAST, I HAVE LEARNED IT WAS YOU WHO DESTROYED MY HIDDEN EARTH OUTPOST, AND ITS LOYAL SENTRY!*
*THIS IS OUR WAY OF FINDING OUT IF YOU WERE WITH US LAST ISH--'CAUSE THAT'S WHEN IT HAPPENED, BABY! --SWINGIN' STAN.
WHILE YOU WRITHE IN ABJECT HELPLESSNESS, I HAVE PROBED YOUR PRIMITIVE BRAINS!
AND NOW-- I AM DONE!
SINCE THERE IS NO DOUBT OF YOUR GUILT, YOU MUST AWAIT MY SENTENCE!
THUS, I RELEASE YOU-- UNTIL THE COMING OF-- RONAN, THE ACCUSER!
A SPLIT-SECOND LATER...
BRO-THER! I'VE HAD NIGHTMARES BEFORE--BUT THIS ONE WAS TOO MUCH!
WADDA YOU KNOW ABOUT NIGHTMARES?
YA SHOULD'A SEEN THE NUTTY ONE I JUST HAD!--AND IN LIVIN' STEREO, YET!
NEXT TIME, I DON'T CARE HOW LATE WE GOTTA WORK--I'M GOIN' HOME AND SLEEP IN MY OWN TREE!
AND I'M SWEARIN' OFF PICKLES 'N ICE CREAM, TOO!
2

BOY, WOULDN'T IT BE SOMETHING IF THE SENTRY WAS LIKE A COP WHO HAS TO CALL THE PRECINCT EVERY FEW HOURS?
YEAH, I WAS THINKING THE--HEY!!
THEN, WHEN THE ISLE SANK, AND HE MISSED HIS REPORT, IT ALERTED 'EM ON THE KREE PLANET!
Y'MEAN YOU HAD THE SAME DREAM?!!
I HEARD O' TOGETHERNESS, BUT THIS IS FER THE BIRDS!
IT MUST HAVE BEEN SOME KINDA COINCIDENCE--THOUGH REED'LL FIND SOME BIG, SCIENTIFIC NAME FOR IT!
WELL, I'M NOT WORRYIN' ABOUT ANY NIGHTMARE WHEN I'VE GOT A DATE WITH A REAL LIVE DREAM TODAY!
I'LL HOP IN HERE FIRST, BIG BUDDY! I DON'T WANNA KEEP CRYS WAITING!
HEY, WADDAYA DO FER AN ITCHY TONGUE?
SCRATCH IT!
WELL, HARDY HAR HAR!
WHY CAN'TCHA TAKE A COLD BATH, JUNIOR--SO'S I DON'T HAVETA WAIT ALL DAY?
AWW, GO HAUNT A HOUSE, OR SOMETHIN'! I JUST GOT IN HERE!
YOU KNOW, BENJY, I CAN'T GET THAT DREAM OUT OF MY MIND!
DON'T WORRY--IT'LL DIE O' LONELINESS IN THERE!
HI, STRETCHO! IS BREAKFAST READY YET?
IN A FEW MINUTES, BEN!
SUE HAD A BAD DREAM --WHICH SORT OF SHOOK HER UP!
HER TOO?
CLICK!
IT'S UNCANNY, DARLING! I WAS JUST TALKING TO BEN--
HE AND JOHNNY BOTH HAD THE EXACT SAME DREAM THAT WE DID!
BUT--THAT ISN'T POSSIBLE, REED!! HOW CAN FOUR PEOPLE--SHARE THE SAME NIGHTMARE??
YOU MEAN--IT MAY HAVE BEEN MORE THAN--JUST A DREAM?!!
THERE'S ONE EXPLANATION--BUT IT'S ALMOST TOO FRIGHTENING TO MENTION!
IT MAY HAVE BEEN--A SENTENCE OF DEATH!
3

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

ON SALE NOW!
WHO SAYS A COMIC BOOK HAS TO BE GOOD??
NOT BRAND ECHH
MARVEL IS UNFAIR!
ON STRIKE
WE PROTEST!
MARVELITES ARISE!!
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
12¢ IND.
1 AUG
IT'S ABSURD!
IT'S INSANE!
IT'S...
...FORBUSH MAN!
WOTTA REVOLTIN' DEVELOPMENT!
MARVEL UNLEASHED IT AT LAST!
THE COMIC MAGAZINE FOR NON-BELIEVERS WHO HATE COMIC MAGAZINES!
'NUFF SAID!

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350 ASSORTED PENNANTS—Includes all the top BASEBALL teams, FOOTBALL teams—and all the popular COLLEGES . . . printed on gummed label "stick-ons" that you paste on anywhere. Big bargain offer — only $1.00 for complete set.
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COMIC FELT PATCHES. Grab-bag assortment of brilliant, full color comic designs printed on fine quality felt that you sew on your T-Shirt, Jacket, Hat, Sweat Shirt, etc. A real bargain offer.
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I TOLD YOU I COULD WRITE
SEND MONEY!
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SPECIAL - 3 LISTS FOR ONLY $1.00
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400 CRAZY LABELS. They're wild! You get over 400 assorted zany slogans & funny sayings printed on gummed label "stick-ons". They're strictly nutty. Terrific for dressing up your letters, school book covers, etc.
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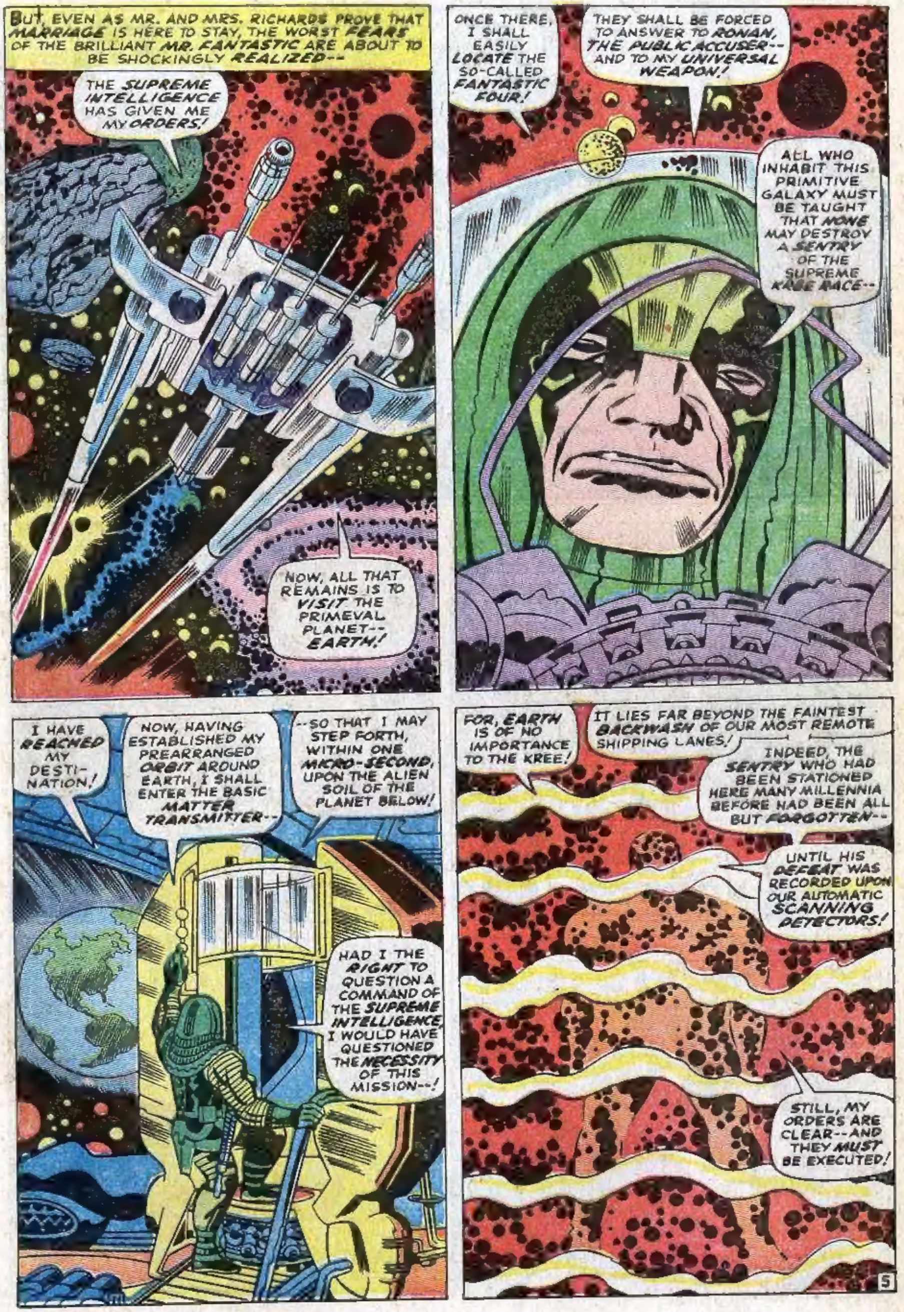
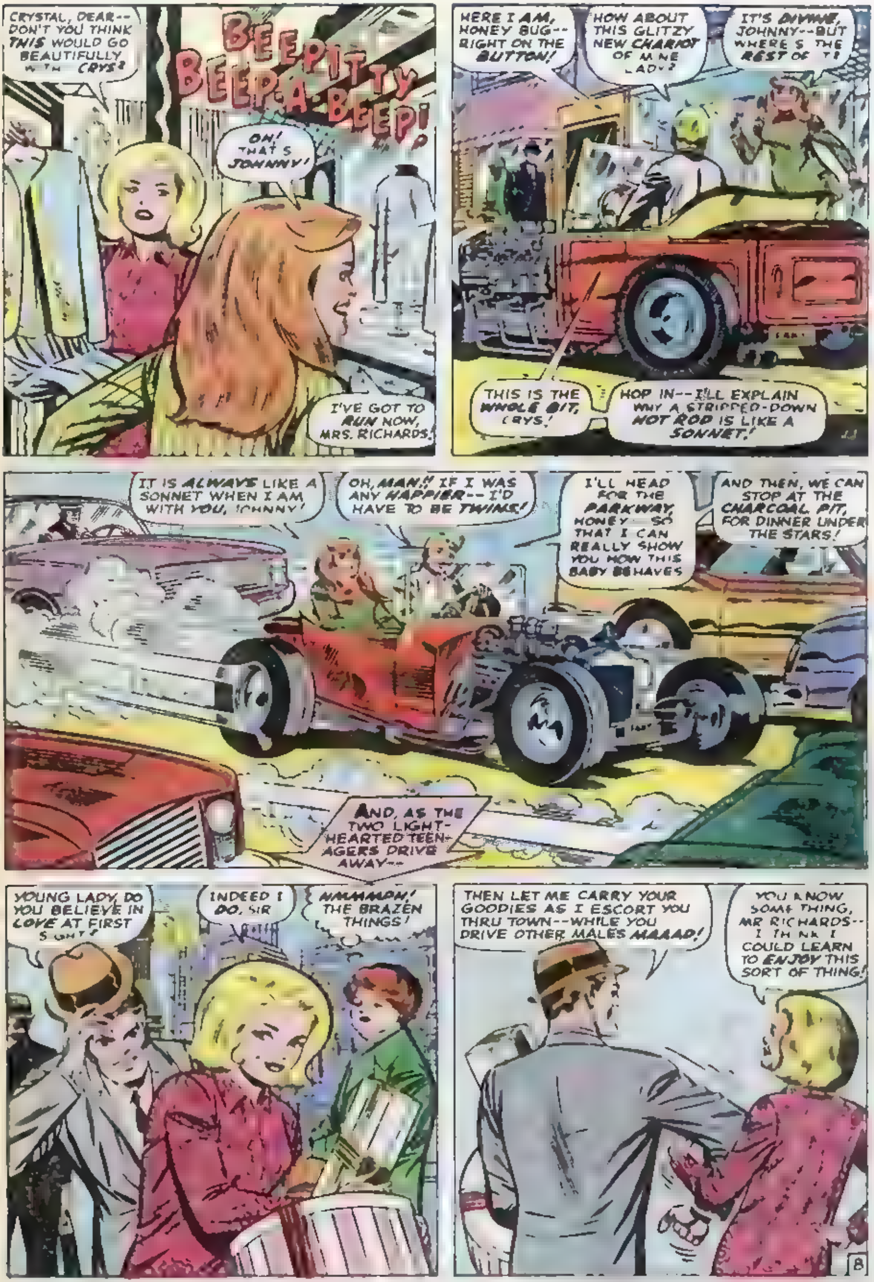
SORRY, WE CANNOT SHIP ORDERS FOR LESS THAN $1.00



BUT, EVEN AS MR. AND MRS. RICHARDS PROVE THAT MARRIAGE IS HERE TO STAY, THE WORST FEARS OF THE BRILLIANT MR. FANTASTIC ARE ABOUT TO BE SHOCKINGLY REALIZED--
THE SUPREME INTELLIGENCE HAS GIVEN ME MY ORDERS!
NOW, ALL THAT REMAINS IS TO VISIT THE PRIMEVAL PLANET-- EARTH!
ONCE THERE, I SHALL EASILY LOCATE THE SO-CALLED FANTASTIC FOUR!
THEY SHALL BE FORCED TO ANSWER TO RONAN, THE PUBLIC ACCUSER-- AND TO MY UNIVERSAL WEAPON!
ALL WHO INHABIT THIS PRIMITIVE GALAXY MUST BE TAUGHT THAT NONE MAY DESTROY A SENTRY OF THE SUPREME KREE RACE--
I HAVE REACHED MY DESTI-NATION!
NOW, HAVING ESTABLISHED MY PREARRANGED ORBIT AROUND EARTH, I SHALL ENTER THE BASIC MATTER TRANSMITTER--
--SO THAT I MAY STEP FORTH, WITHIN ONE MICRO-SECOND, UPON THE ALIEN SOIL OF THE PLANET BELOW!
HAD I THE RIGHT TO QUESTION A COMMAND OF THE SUPREME INTELLIGENCE I WOULD HAVE QUESTIONED THE NECESSITY OF THIS MISSION--!
FOR, EARTH IS OF NO IMPORTANCE TO THE KREE!
IT LIES FAR BEYOND THE FAINTEST BACKWASH OF OUR MOST REMOTE SHIPPING LANES!
INDEED, THE SENTRY WHO HAD BEEN STATIONED HERE MANY MILLENNIA BEFORE HAD BEEN ALL BUT FORGOTTEN--
UNTIL HIS DEFEAT WAS RECORDED UPON OUR AUTOMATIC SCANNING DETECTORS!
STILL, MY ORDERS ARE CLEAR--AND THEY MUST BE EXECUTED!
5

FIRST, I SHALL EMIT AN AURA OF NEGATIVISM, CAUSING THE NATIVES TO REMAIN UNAWARE OF MY PRESENCE AS I STUDY THEM AT CLOSE RANGE!
NO LONGER ARE THEY MINDLESS SAVAGES! THEY APPEAR TO BE IN THE SECONDARY STAGE OF RACIAL ADVANCEMENT!
THEIR SOCIOLOGICAL STRUCTURE IS STILL ECONOMICALLY ORIENTED-- AND THEIR SCIENTIFIC ADVANCES HAVE FAR OUTDISTANCED THEIR MORAL AND SPIRITUAL CONCEPTS!
IN SHORT, THEY ARE AT THE INTERMEDIATE STAGE OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT!
THOUGH LEARNING TO MASTER THEIR PHYSICAL WORLD, THEY ARE STILL SORELY BESET BY GREED, HATRED, FEAR, AND OTHER VIRUSES OF THE SPIRIT!
YET, WEAK AND PITIFUL THOUGH THEY MAY BE, FOUR OF THEIR NUMBER HAVE DARED DESTROY A KREE OUT-POST AND ITS SENTRY!
AND FOR THAT, THEY MUST ANSWER TO RONAN, THE PUBLIC ACCUSER!
NOW, ACCORDING TO STANDARD PROCEDURE, I MUST CREATE A CONE OF IMPENETRABILITY ABOUT MYSELF--
AND, SAFELY WITHIN THIS CONE, UNDISTURBED BY ANY HOSTILE HUMANS, I SHALL METE OUT THE SENTENCE OF THE KREE!
SINCE NONE CAN APPROACH ME, IT IS NO LONGER NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN MY AURA OF NEGATIVISM!
HOLY SMOKE!! WHAT'S THAT?!!
WHILE, BACK AT FF HEADQUARTERS, WE FIND--
I CAN'T GIT TO SEE ALICIA TILL LATER ON, SO I MIGHT AS WELL CATCH UP ON SOME CULTURE!
I AINT HADDA CHANCE TO READ DEAR ABBY FER DAYS!
WHAT'S THAT? YOU'VE GOT 'ER ALL SET TO ROLL? GRRRREAT! I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!
KEEP IT DOWN TO A ROAR, WILLYA, PEE-WEE? CAN'TCHA SEE I'M RELAXIN'?!!
BOY! WAIT'LL I TELL CRYS!
C'MON, SOUR-PUSS--GET OUT FROM UNDER THAT PAPER AND LISTEN TO SOME REAL NEWS!
THAT WAS THE BODY SHOP CALLING! MY NEW, SOUPED-UP HOT-ROD IS ALL READY FOR ME!
HOW'S ABOUT GIVING IT A SHAKEDOWN BEFORE I PICK UP MY ONE AND ONLY?
YEEOWWTCH! DOUSE THAT NUTTY FLAME, YA BLASTED IDJIT!
I TOLDJA I WUZ TRYIN' TO RELAX!
FROM WHAT, YOU LAZY LUMMOX!
6

HEY.! WHO YOU CALLIN' A LAZY LUMMOX ??!
MY BLUSHIN', BLUE-EYED BUDDY-- BENJAMIN J. GRIMM--THAT'S WHO!
THAT SINKS IT, SQUIRT! HERE'S WHERE I PUT A SNUFF OUT ON YER FLAME, BUT GOOD!
STICKS 'N STONES WILL BREAK MY BONES--
SO YA DON'T BELIEVE ME, HUH?
WELL, YOU BETTER BELIEVE IT!
HEY! FER THE LUVVA AUNT PETUNIA!!
ALL I TRIED TA DO WUZ CREATE A VACUUM-- LIKE WHEN THEY DOUSE AN OIL WELL FIRE BY SETTIN' OFF A DYNAMITE CHARGE!
WADDAYA FIGGER WENT WRONG?
WE SHOULD GIVE YOU TO THE MEN WITH THE BUTTERFLY NETS WHEN THEY COME AROUND LOOKING FOR SPECIMENS --THAT'S WHAT WENT WRONG!
HOW DO THEY LET A FULL-TIME NUT LIKE YOU RUN LOOSE?!
CAN I BELIEVE MY SHELL-LIKE EARS?
HE'S TALKIN' LIKE THAT TO ME!
TO ME--WHO'S ALWAYS BEEN HIS EVER LOVIN' IDOL--HIS FULL-TIME HERO IMAGE?!
SORRY I CAN'T HELP YOU CLEAN UP THE MESS, LAUGHIN' BOY--
BUT I WOULDN'T WANNA INTERFERE WITH YOUR RELAXING!
I WONDER IF HE'S TRYIN' TA TELL ME SOMETHIN'!
WHILE, IN A FASHIONABLE DRESS SALON, NOT FAR AWAY--
ARE YOU SURE JOHNNY WILL LIKE ME IN THIS OUTFIT, MRS. RICHARDS?
THAT WIDE-EYED BROTHER OF MINE WOULD LIKE YOU IN A BARREL, CRYSTAL!
I WONDER--SHOULD I TAKE THAT--OR ANOTHER PAIR OF THOSE DARLING HIP-HUGGERS?
WHY NOT TAKE BOTH, MADAM?
A WONDERFUL SUGGESTION!
7



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PROVEN IN THE LABS — PROVEN ON THE ROAD — PROVEN ON THE INDIANAPOLIS SPEEDWAY — and finally released to the public!

[illegible] used by Ford, General [illegible] 100 miles of driving [illegible] once a month [illegible] and save up to 500 gallons of gas [illegible]

NOW! 30 DAYS OF DRIVING ON A SINGLE TANK OF GAS!

—even more startling, now save up to $16 a month, up to 50 gallons of gas each month, without changing a single part on your car!

Laboratory reports . . . PLUS road tests conducted on Indianapolis proving grounds [illegible] save up to 50 gallons of gas each month [illegible]

HERE IT IS — IN ACTION [illegible] high-speed cameras at on[illegible] viewing console you se[illegible] authorities at the Indianapolis Spe[illegible] ordinary gasoline [illegible] feed it into [illegible] documented proof of just how this amazin[illegible] bills in the next 12 months . . . [illegible] Indianapolis test driver.)

Six months ago, for perhaps the first time [illegible] from these tests because it is TOO EFFECTIVE! Do you know that because [illegible]

[illegible] VANTAGE [illegible]

[illegible] DRIVERS REPORT UP TO [illegible] MILES PER GALLON —

The same [illegible] great new invention [illegible] there is no [illegible] the increased [illegible] Look

CUTS GASOLINE COSTS TO AS LITTLE AS 1¢ A MILE

1. When the G.T ENERGY CHAMBER was first tested by the same research laboratories used by Ford, General Motors and Chrysler [illegible] results were so overwhelming, (a staggering increase of up to [illegible] per cent) . . . it actually [illegible]

8 cylinder sedans get better gas mileage than small European economy cars!

[illegible] they reported savings of not hundreds but thousands of gallons of gas the very [illegible]

UP TO 500 MILES OF DRIVING FROM A SINGLE TANK OF GAS

Yes, from test after test . . . road tests, laboratory tests, tests by some of the world's most famous drivers . . . come re-[illegible]

BEST PROOF OF ALL!

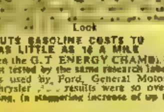
[illegible] For 3 Solid Months . . . Then Orders Fleet Of Cars IMMEDIATELY [illegible] report "Savings of up to $4 gallons a month per car" from one of the nation's largest [illegible] average person spends in a lifetime [illegible] they tested this incredible new invention and here is what they found [illegible] WHOPPING 32% ON ALL CARS TESTED. Wouldn't you like to save [illegible]

[illegible] hundreds of miles ON A SINGLE TANK OF GAS! Reports of test cars from Ford, General Motors, Chrysler that get more [illegible] sedans that weigh 2½ times more than [illegible] dollar savings thanks to this new miracle [illegible]

IF IT WORKS SUCH [illegible] MIRACLES, HOW [illegible]

[illegible] now you are probably wondering just [illegible] and how does it work? Well, to make a long story short . . . if you were to look [illegible] European luxury cars like the Maserati or the Aston-Martin, you [illegible] booster-unit is what gives these cars such magnificent performance . . . such TOTAL POWER . . . such increased engine effi-[illegible]

LOOK HOW EASY IT IS!



All you do is simply attach the G. T. ENERGY CHAMBER on your fuel line. Since it is a precision instrument, with a special model for each make car, there are no special adjustments for you to make. They've already been made for you at the factory. You simply screw it into place . . . and that's all. In fact, it's so easy you need not know a single thing about an engine to install it [illegible] each unit. Total installation time: 3 to [illegible] minutes. Total savings on gas: up to [illegible] a year!

ONLY, instead of costing $100 to $150 [illegible] T. ENERGY CHAMBER costs but a mere fraction. That's because after years of intensive research [illegible] found a way to simplify these booster units . . . reduce the number of parts in each unit . . . mass produce them . . . slash costs to a mere fraction . . . and make them available at a price so low [illegible] almost too ridiculous to mention. Why do you realize what this means to you if you are a person who is determined to save yourself up to $16 a month on your gas bills . . . up to 50 gallons of gas each month . . . yes, up to $200 a year on [illegible]

INSTALLS IN MINUTES — PAYS FOR ITSELF IN AS LITTLE AS 15 DAYS!

It means that no matter what kind of car you now have . . . no matter what condition it may be . . . no matter how many miles you pile on each month [illegible] here at last is the [illegible] you've long dreamed about . . . and has now come true. Because, from this day on you too can [illegible] and every year! NOW you too can drive for weeks and weeks on end without ever [illegible] can drive across 6 states of the union on just a single tank of gas, blaze a trail from New York to Chicago on just 2 or 3 tankfuls. In other words, perform mileage [illegible] were impossible.

So if you too want to achieve the same [illegible] automotive fleet owners, by In[illegible] test-drivers, and by research scientists at the very same testing laboratories used by Ford, Chrysler and General Motors, then take advantage of this [illegible] introductory offer. Remember, all you risk is the few minutes it takes to fill out the special reservation coupon below, and you have a lifetime of driving convenience and [illegible]

THIS OFFER EXPIRES IN 15 DAYS — YOU MUST ACT NOW!

Now the price of the G. T. ENERGY [illegible] expect . . . but only $5.95. Why, you'll save up to 10 times that amount in gasoline savings in no time at all . . . not to mention the hundreds of gallons of gasoline and hundreds of dollars in money you save year after year.

However, due to the enormous demands of trucking companies, car-rental companies, taxicab fleets and other large [illegible] ENERGY CHAMBERS can possibly be allocated each month for consumer orders. [illegible] all orders must be filled on a first-come, first-served ba[illegible] of this limited introductory [illegible] mail the no-risk coupon today!

AMERICAN AUTOMOTIVE UNITS INC. Dept. 494
500 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10036

Please rush me the sensational G. T. Energy Chamber immediately! I understand [illegible] stand that I may return the unit anytime for full purchase price refund if I am not fully satisfied.

Make of Car ________ Year ________

NAME ________

ADDRESS ________

CITY ________ STATE ________ ZIP ________

SPECIAL OFFER: Purchase one for yourself and one for a friend and save even more. Order two G. T. ENERGY CHAMBERS for just 10.95 (a savings of $1.00) same guarantee as above. Make of Second Car ________ Year ____

( ) C.O.D. orders enclose $1.00 deposit. Same money back guarantee.

A FEW MINUTES LATER--
DARLING! THIS IS THE MOST EXPENSIVE PLACE IN TOWN!
I WAS RATHER HOPING YOU'D NOTICE THAT, YOUNG LADY!
THIS WAY, PLEASE--!
I'LL SHOW YOU TO OUR VERY BEST TABLE!
REED RICHARDS!! THEY'RE TREATING US LIKE ROYALTY! YOU MUST HAVE PREPARED ALL THIS IN ADVANCE!
THINK NOTHING OF IT, PRINCESS!
IT ONLY COST A KING'S RANSOM!
IF I MAY TAKE YOUR ORDER NOW, SIR--?
LOOK! OVER THERE! ISN'T THAT REED RICHARDS AND SUE STORM?
NOT A CHANCE! YOU'D NEVER CATCH THEM IN A PLACE LIKE THIS
BESIDES--WHENEVER THEY'RE AROUND--THINGS HAPPEN!
THEY--VANISHED!
IT--WAS THEM!
YOU THOUGHT WE'D FORGOTTEN ABOUT THE ACTION, EH FRANTIC ONE? WELL, HANG LOOSE, HERO--WE'RE ALMOST ON OUR WAY--!
HOLD IT UP THERE, BUDDY--HOLD IT UP!
OH, JOHNNY--IT'S A POLICE OFFICER!
I KINDA FIGURED IT WASN'T BOBBY KENNEDY!
LOOK, OFFICER--I KNOW THIS BABY LOOKS FAST, BUT I WAS WATCHING THE SPEED LIMIT--!
IT'S OKAY, SON--YOU WEREN'T SPEEDING!
I'VE ORDERS TO GIVE HOT RODS A ROUTINE SAFETY CHECK, THAT'S ALL!
ALTHOUGH YOURS LOOKS IN BETTER SHAPE THAN HALF THE SEDANS THAT GO BARRELLING BY!
9

SAY! HAVEN'T I SEEN YOU -WHA-?!
FZZZTTT!
JOHNNY!!
HE'S GONE!
STAY WITH US NOW, TIGER--ONLY ONE MORE FZZTT TO GO--!
WHO'SAT LEANIN' ON THE BLAMED DOOR-BELL?!!
HOW'M I EVER GONNA GIT THIS JOINT PATCHED UP WHEN--
WELL WADDAYA KNOW? A PRESENT FER LOVEABLE ME!
ARE Y-YOU BEN GRIMM?
ME? NAWW-- I'M SIMON 'N GARFUNKEL--
BOTH OF 'EM!
NOW GIMME THAT BLASTED THING 'N DON'T ASK ANY MORE BONEHEAD QUESTIONS!
HEY! WAIT A MINNIT! IT'S GOT A YANCY STREET RETURN ADDRESS!!
WHAT'SA BIG IDEA, BUDDY?
L-LOOK, MISTER-- I'M JUST PAID TO DELIVER 'EM - THAT'S ALL!
AND I SUDDENLY REALIZE THEY PAY ME ENOUGH!
NOW JUST SIGN HERE SO'S I CAN GET OUT OF THIS NUT-HOUSE!
NOT-- SO-- FAST!
ANYTHING THEM CHICKEN-SCRATCHIN' YANCY STREETERS SEND ME IS GOTTA BE BOOBY-TRAPPED!
JUST HOLD YER HOSSES TILL I SEE IF IT TICKS!
TICKS?! YOU THINK-- IT'S A--A--
THEN-- DON'T SHAKE IT!!
HE WAS RIGHT!!
WE'RE DONE FOR!!
BUT-- THIS IS CRAZY-- I DON'T GET IT!
THE PACKAGE IS OKAY! IT DIDN'T BLOW UP AT ALL!
BUT GRIMM IS GONE-- JUST THE SAME!!
I'M GETTIN' OUTTA HERE!
IF I HAVETA MAKE ANOTHER DELIVERY TO THE FANTASTIC FOUR, I'M TURNING IN MY UNIFORM!
I'D RATHER BE A CIVILIAN!
10

AND NOW, THE MOMENT WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR! INSIDE THE UNCANNY CONE OF INVULNERABILITY, WE FIND--
I AM RONAN, THE PUBLIC ACCUSER!
IN THE NAME OF THE KREE RACE, THOSE WHOM I ACCUSE, I DO SENTENCE AS WELL!
YOU STAND ACCUSED OF DESTROYING AN IMPERIAL KREE OUTPOST--AND DEPRIVING THE SUPREME INTELLIGENCE OF AN INVALUABLE SENTRY!
THEN--MY SUSPICIONS WERE CORRECT!! IT WASN'T A DREAM! IT WAS A GENUINE MIND PROBE!
HE--LOOKS MORE POWER-FUL--THAN THE SENTRY HIMSELF!
WE ONLY ACTED IN SELF DEFENSE! YOUR SO-CALLED SENTRY WAS TRYING TO POLISH US OFF!
I'M GITTIN' FED UP WITH EVERY CREEP WHO CAN AFFORD A FAR-OUT COSTUME THINKIN' HE CAN WHUP THE FF!!
I MUST INSIST UPON SILENCE DURING THE PERIOD OF ACCUSATION!
YOU GOT ROCKS IN YER HEAD AWREADY--
SO HOW DJA LIKE SOME LUMPS TO KEEP 'EM COMPANY?
ARE YOU SO ABYSMALLY PRIMITIVE THAT YOU CANNOT RECOGNIZE THE UNIVERSAL WEAPON WHICH I HOLD?!!
THIS IS YOUR FINAL WARNING!
A PUBLIC ACCUSER CAN TOLERATE NO DISTURBANCE DURING THE TIME OF TRIAL!
TRIAL?!! YOU AIN'T TRYIN' US, BUSTER!
BEN--DON'T! WITH THAT WEAPON OF HIS, HE MIGHT--UHHH!--TOO LATE!
HOLY HANNAH!! WHAT'S HAPPENIN'??
CAN--HARDLY MOVE! FEELS LIKE--A WHOLE PLANET--ON MY BACK--CRUSHIN' ME--!!
11

IT WILL AVAIL YOU NOTHING TO STRUGGLE!
THE PRESSURE WILL CONTINUE TO INCREASE TILL YOU ARE BEATEN TO YOUR KNEES!
BENJAMIN J. GRIMM-- DON'T BEAT-- THAT EASY!! I'LL GIT TO YA-- SOMEHOW--!
NO ONE'S DOIN' THAT TO MY BLUE-EYED BUDDY--!
FLAME ON!
HE--JUST WAVED THAT CLUB AT ME AND I MISSED
SSSSHOOOSH
AN ACCUSER???!
MISTER, IF YOU THINK THE FANTASTIC FOUR ARE GONNA SIT UP 'N BEG, JUST CAUSE SOME CLUB-SWINGIN' CLOWN FROM WAY OUT YONDER SAYS SO, THEN YOU'RE OUTTA YOUR TREE!
AGAIN YOU DARE ATTACK??
THIS TIME I SHALL DRAW THE VERY FLAME AWAY FROM YOU--DRAINING YOU OF YOUR FIERY POWER!
JOHNNY!
12

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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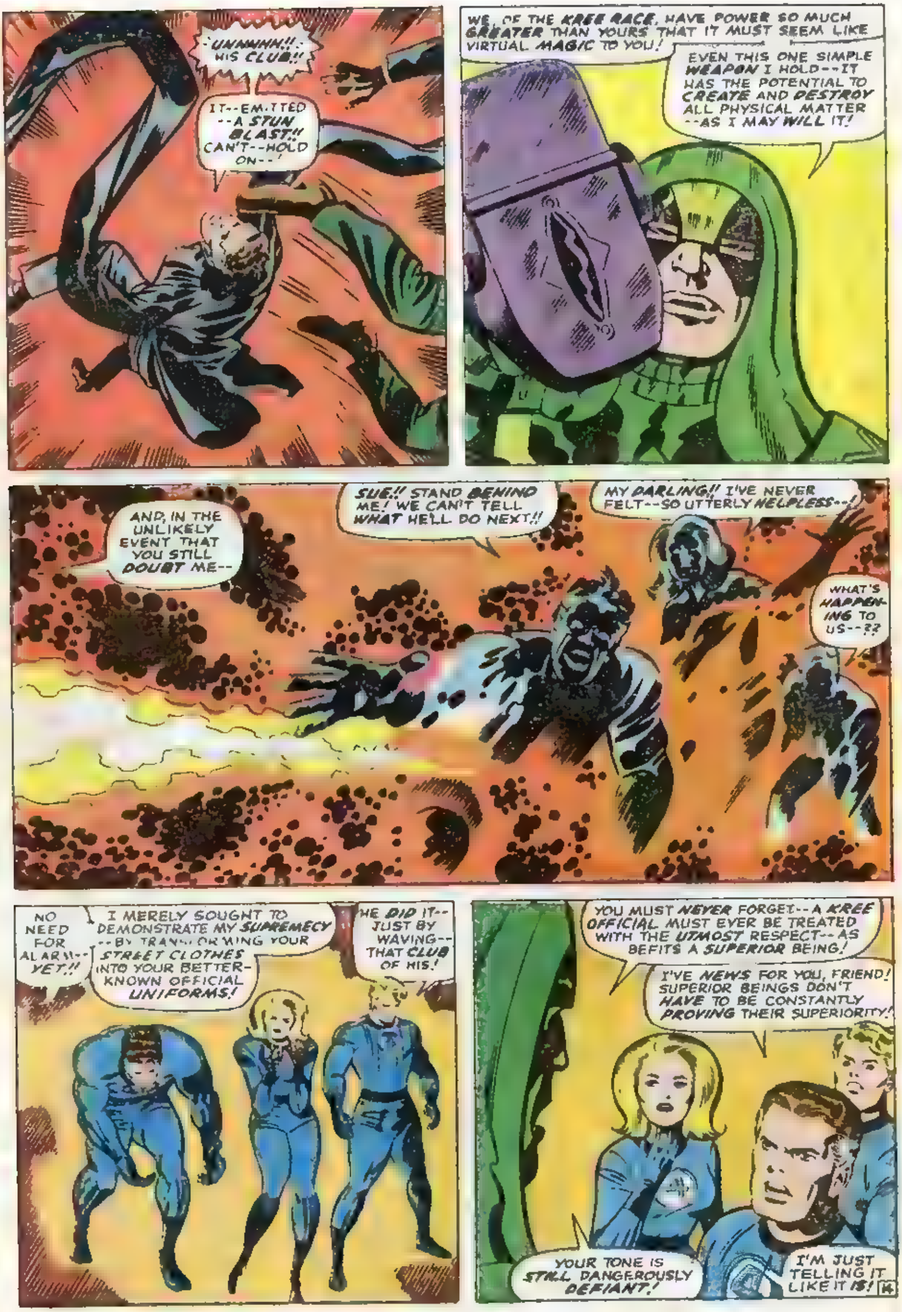
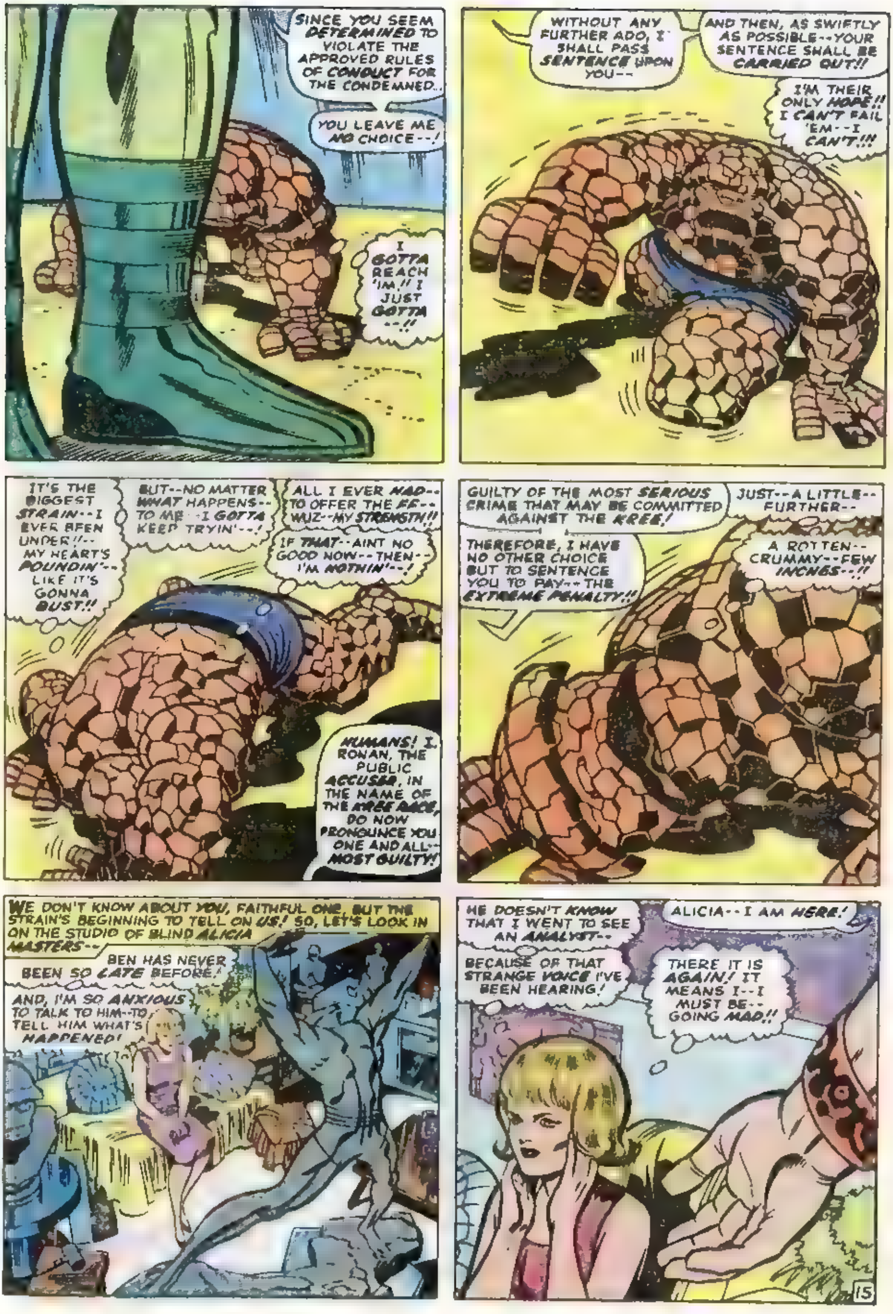
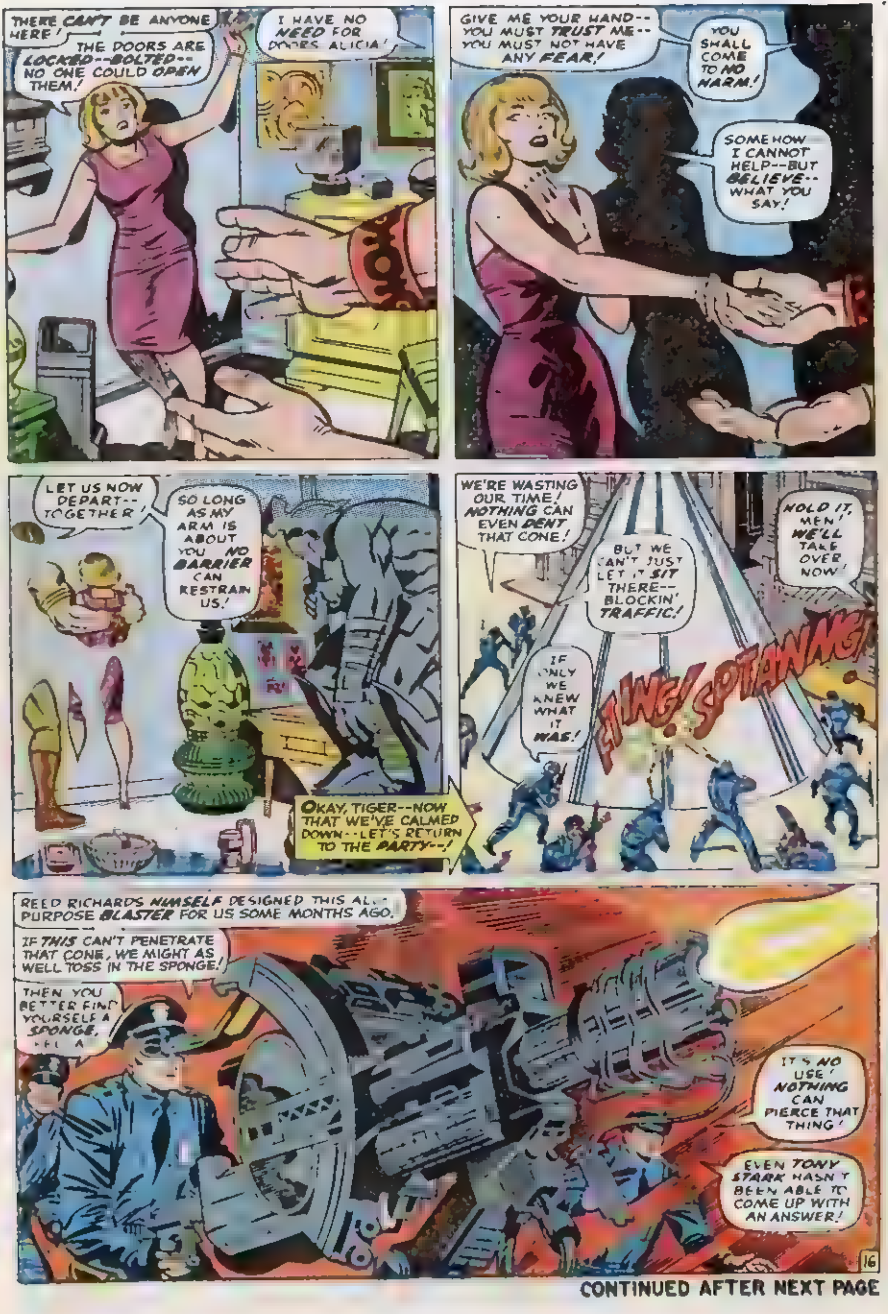


UNNNHH!! HIS CLUB!!
IT--EMITTED --A STUN BLAST!! CAN'T--HOLD ON--!
WE, OF THE KREE RACE, HAVE POWER SO MUCH GREATER THAN YOURS THAT IT MUST SEEM LIKE VIRTUAL MAGIC TO YOU!
EVEN THIS ONE SIMPLE WEAPON I HOLD--IT HAS THE POTENTIAL TO CREATE AND DESTROY ALL PHYSICAL MATTER --AS I MAY WILL IT!
AND, IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT THAT YOU STILL DOUBT ME--
SUE!! STAND BEHIND ME! WE CAN'T TELL WHAT HE'LL DO NEXT!!
MY DARLING!! I'VE NEVER FELT--SO UTTERLY HELPLESS--!
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO US--??
NO NEED FOR ALARM--YET!!
I MERELY SOUGHT TO DEMONSTRATE MY SUPREMECY --BY TRANSFORMING YOUR STREET CLOTHES INTO YOUR BETTER-KNOWN OFFICIAL UNIFORMS!
HE DID IT--JUST BY WAVING--THAT CLUB OF HIS!
YOU MUST NEVER FORGET--A KREE OFFICIAL MUST EVER BE TREATED WITH THE UTMOST RESPECT--AS BEFITS A SUPERIOR BEING!
I'VE NEWS FOR YOU, FRIEND! SUPERIOR BEINGS DON'T HAVE TO BE CONSTANTLY PROVING THEIR SUPERIORITY!
YOUR TONE IS STILL DANGEROUSLY DEFIANT!
I'M JUST TELLING IT LIKE IT IS!
14


SINCE YOU SEEM DETERMINED TO VIOLATE THE APPROVED RULES OF CONDUCT FOR THE CONDEMNED..
YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE--!
I GOTTA REACH 'IM!! I JUST GOTTA--!!
WITHOUT ANY FURTHER ADO, I SHALL PASS SENTENCE UPON YOU--
AND THEN, AS SWIFTLY AS POSSIBLE--YOUR SENTENCE SHALL BE CARRIED OUT!!
I'M THEIR ONLY HOPE!! I CAN'T FAIL 'EM--I CAN'T!!!
IT'S THE BIGGEST STRAIN--I EVER BEEN UNDER!!--MY HEART'S POUNDIN'--LIKE IT'S GONNA BUST!!
BUT--NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS--TO ME--I GOTTA KEEP TRYIN'--!
ALL I EVER HAD--TO OFFER THE FF--WUZ--MY STRENGTH!!
IF THAT--AINT NO GOOD NOW--THEN--I'M NOTHIN'--!
HUMANS! I, RONAN, THE PUBLIC ACCUSER, IN THE NAME OF THE KREE RACE, DO NOW PRONOUNCE YOU ONE AND ALL--MOST GUILTY!
GUILTY OF THE MOST SERIOUS CRIME THAT MAY BE COMMITTED AGAINST THE KREE!
THEREFORE, I HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE BUT TO SENTENCE YOU TO PAY--THE EXTREME PENALTY!!
JUST--A LITTLE--FURTHER--
A ROTTEN--CRUMMY--FEW INCHES--!!
WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, FAITHFUL ONE, BUT THE STRAIN'S BEGINNING TO TELL ON US! SO, LET'S LOOK IN ON THE STUDIO OF BLIND ALICIA MASTERS--
BEN HAS NEVER BEEN SO LATE BEFORE!
AND, I'M SO ANXIOUS TO TALK TO HIM--TO TELL HIM WHAT'S HAPPENED!
HE DOESN'T KNOW THAT I WENT TO SEE AN ANALYST--
BECAUSE OF THAT STRANGE VOICE I'VE BEEN HEARING!
ALICIA--I AM HERE!
THERE IT IS AGAIN! IT MEANS I--I MUST BE--GOING MAD!!
15



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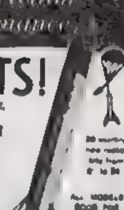
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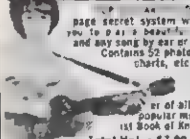

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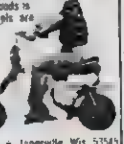

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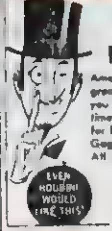

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MEANWHILE, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SOUNDPROOF, LIGHT-PROOF, IMPACT-PROOF CONE--THE CRITICAL STAGE HAS BEEN REACHED--
AND NOW-- IT IS TIME TO EXECUTE YOUR SENTENCE!
NO! YOU CAN'T! YOU'VE NO RIGHT--!
UP, JOHNNY!! OVER THE BEAM-- NOW!
GOTCHA, REED!
WHERE IS THE ORANGE-SKINNED ONE? WHAT HAS BECOME OF HIM??
HE CANNOT HAVE ESCAPED!
GOOD WORK, DARLING! BY SHOUTING THE WAY YOU DID--AND ACTING SO FRIGHTENED--YOU KEPT RONAN FROM SUSPECTING THAT YOU HAD MADE BEN INVISIBLE!
BUT, HE STILL HAS--THAT WEAPON OF HIS!
YOU CAN RELEASE YOUR INVISIBILITY FIELD AROUND HIM NOW! THIS IS THE SHOWDOWN!
ONE WIDE-SWEEP BLAST WILL NOW DOWN YOU ALL!
NOT--IF I--CAN HELP IT--!
AND-- I CAN-- HELP IT--!
MY ARMS!! YOU'RE PINNING MY ARMS!!
RELEASE ME, IN THE NAME OF THE KREE!! THE SENTENCE MUST BE PASSED!!
NEVER HAS A PEOPLE'S ACCUSER FAILED TO EXECUTE A SENTENCE!!
BUT THERE'S ALWAYS A FIRST TIME, SWEETIE!!
AND THIS IS IT!
NOW, JOHNNY --LET'S TAKE HIM!
17

POOR BEN IS HANGING ON BY GRIT ALONE! I'VE GOT TO HELP HIM!
THESE INVISIBLE FORCE BLASTS WILL SERVE TO CONFU RONAN--THEY'LL SLOW UP HIS NORMAL REACTION TIME
GOOD WORK, BROTHER-IN-LAW!
AS LONG AS YOU HOLD THAT CLUB OF HIS, HE WON'T BE ABLE TO AIM IT!
WATCH IT, JOHNNY! DON'T GET CARELESS!
YOU'RE RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE NOZZLE! YOU'VE GOT TO TAKE OFF--FAST!
BUT, BEFORE THE STARTLED YOUTH CAN MAKE A MOVE--
SPTAK!
JOHNNY!!!
HIS FLAME IS OUT!!
HE MUSTN'T SLAM AGAINST THE WALL THAT
ONLY A SUDDEN CUSHION OF INVISIBLE FORCE CAN SAVE HIM!
UNHHN!
EVEN THOUGH--I KEPT HIM FROM HITTING THE WALL--
THE SHOCK WAS ENOUGH TO KNOCK HIM OUT!
BUT, AT LEAST HE'LL BE ALL--OHH!!
REED!!
I'VE GOT TO KEEP RONAN FROM AIMING HIS WEAPON--TILL BEN CAN GET HIS STRENGTH BACK!
THAN ANY NORMAL HUMAN!
CAN'T--HOLD ON--MUCH LONGER--!
HE'S--FORCING NOZZLE--TOWARDS ME!! ABOUT TO USE IT--!
8

SOME FAT HELP I AM!!
EVEN WITH ME HOLDIN' 'IM, HE MANAGED TO SHOOT SOME KINDA WHIRL-WIND RAY AT STRETCHO!
IT'S MAKIN' HIM UNWIND HIS GRIP--AN' NOW--HE'S PUSHIN' ME BACK, TOO!
NEVER HAVE ANY ACCUSED ONES RESISTED THEIR SENTENCE SO SAVAGELY!
BUT, IT IS ALL TO NO AVAIL! NONE MAY ESCAPE THE VERDICT OF RONAN, THE ACCUSER!
NOT EVEN THE PRODIGIOUSLY POWERFUL, SUPERBLY-SKILLED FANTASTIC FOUR!!
NOW, ALL THAT REMAINS IS FOR ME TO DISLODGE THE STEADILY-WEAKENING GRIP OF HIM WHO MEN CALL--THE THING!
REMEMBER, I AM NO MERE HUMAN! THE STRENGTH WITHIN MY LIMBS IS NEARLY THE EQUAL OF YOUR OWN!
BUT, I ALSO POSSESS THE WEAPON SUPREME!
BEN!! THERE'S STILL A CHANCE! USE STRATAGEM 32 --HE'S IN EXACTLY THE RIGHT POSITION!
I HEAR YA TALKIN', LEADER MAN!
NOW, PARTNER--SHIFT YOUR WEIGHT--USE THE LEVERAGE OF YOUR SHOULDERS --NOW!!
YOU DID IT!
HE FELL RIGHT ATOP HIS OWN WEAPON--DISCHARGING IT AT THAT VERY SECOND!
WHATEVER SENTENCE THE ACCUSER INTENDED TO METE OUT--HAS BEEN EXECUTED --UPON RONAN HIMSELF!

BUT THEN, SUDDENLY, ANOTHER EXPLOSION OCCURS--OF FAR GREATER INTENSITY THAN THE FIRST--!
TOOOM
AND, WHEN THE SMOKE CLEARS, THE MYSTERIOUS CONE, AND ITS ALIEN OCCUPANT, ARE GONE!! NOTHING REMAINS, SAVE--
THE FF!! IT WAS THEM INSIDE!!
DON'T JUST STAND THERE! GET SOME STRETCHERS!! MOVE!
WHAT COULD'A DONE THAT TO THE THING?!!
THROW UP A BARRICADE! KEEP THOSE CROWDS BACK!
THE ACCUSER'S GONE--AN' HE TOOK HIS LITTLE STAR-HOPPIN' KIDDIE CAR WITH 'IM!
SUE! HOW'S JOHNNY? WILL THE LAD BE ALL RIGHT??
YES, DARLING! IT WAS ONLY THE SUDDEN SHOCK THAT FLOORED HIM!
STAND CLEAR, THERE! LET THOSE SQUAD CARS THRU!
O'MALLEY! GET THAT ARTILLERY BACK TO THE PRECINCT!
I DON'T GET IT, STRETCH!
HOW COME EVERYTHIN' ENDED SO FAST??
THERE MUST HAVE BEEN AN AUTOMATIC ACTIVATOR ON RONAN'S ORBITING SHIP!
YEAH? NOW SAY IT IN ENGLISH!
WITH THE FAILURE OF HIS MISSION, ALL TRACES OF HIS PRESENCE HERE WERE REMOVED--INSTANTANEOUSLY!
BUT, RONAN NO LONGER MATTERS TO US!
WHAT DOES MATTER IS--THE KREE NOW KNOW THEY ARE DEALING WITH AN INTELLIGENT RACE--AND A FIGHTING RACE!
AND I PRAY THAT SUCH KNOWLEDGE WILL KEEP THEM FROM EVER RETURNING!
NEXT: THE MYSTERY DEEPENS!
20
NOTE: OUR LETTERS SECTION APPEARS AFTER NEXT PAGE...

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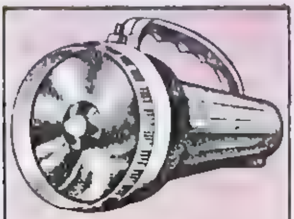

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FABULOUS FACTS AND FRIVOLOUS FABLES FOR FRANTIC FANS, FAITHFUL FRIENDS, AND FIENDISH FOES!

BOMBSHELL! This is it! The news you've been waiting for! The best-kept secret since D-Day! The newest, most exciting, most daring mag that mighty Marvel has ever attempted is now on sale! (At least, it was this morning. By now, judging by the undercurrent of excitement and eager anticipation among Marveldom, it's probably nearly sold out!) The name? BRAND ECHH! The purpose? If everyone else is determined to imitate Marvel, we figure that your ol' Bullpen can do a better, nuttier, funnier, more exciting job of poking fun at itself than anyone else can do! But why call it BRAND ECHH? Because we've been steadily making those two words the most famous title in comicdom—so we figured we might as well cash in on the publicity ourselves! Besides, think how it'll rock the competition! We guarantee you've never read a mag like it! It's jam-packed with Marvel's mightiest super-heroes, written and drawn by Marvel's top talent, and loaded with block-busting bellylaughs in every incredible panel! It's the mag you never expected to see—created by the only [illegible] could have done it! It'll be a priceless collectors' item before you're one week older, and we kid thee not! So, take a tip from your blushin' Bullpen—if you haven't yet latched onto our first unforgettable, unforgivable issue, don't even finish this page till you've dashed to your nearest newsstand and lassoed a copy! Otherwise, how'll you know what all the excitement's about? And, to make sure you don't forget, here's a subtle little reminder: Don't be a wreck—buy BRAND ECHH! BRAND ECHH! BRAND ECHH! BRAND ECHH! BRAND ECHH! Oh, and before we forget—the name of the mag is BRAND ECHH.

SPECIAL! Here's your fill-in on Marvel's line-up of Special spectaculars for this summer. They're 25¢ apiece, king-sized—and contain almost all ORIGINAL stories and features, just as you've been requesting! The first two to go on sale, in June, will be SGT. FURY AND HIS HOWLING COMMANDOS SPECIAL, featuring a sensational surprise, in which Col. Fury, the head of Shield, reunites his Howlers for a deadly mission in Viet Nam! It's probably the most genuinely explosive battle saga of the year! Also, we blushingly admit that our MILLIE THE MODEL SPECIAL (for your sisters and gal friends) will feature an earth-shattering yarn dealing with the long-awaited marriage of Millie's friend, Toni! (How does THAT grab ya, [illegible]) Then, while you're still reeling, we'll toss two more sensations at you in July—the DAREDEVIL SPECIAL, in which the Man Without Fear faces five (count 'em, five!) of his most deadly enemies in one of the greatest original action-epics of the century! You'll also see a whole kaboodle of fabulous features and pin-ups, as only Stan and Gene could create them! But, hang loose, Hallowed One—there's more! Our second king-size title will be THE AVENGERS SPECIAL, jam-packed with the new Avengers—the old Avengers—guest stars such as Hercules, Nick Fury, and the startling Sub-Mariner — all fussin' and fightin' together in a 49-page-long original yarn which'll knock you outta your tree! But, does majestic Marvel stop there? Uh uh! We're only beginning! In August, we present the fabulous FANTASTIC FOUR SPECIAL, together with the senses-shattering SPIDER-MAN SPECIAL! But, let's wait till next ish before we tell you what they'll be featuring—we don't wanna drive you into a state of shock too soon!

TV TIME! Only another few months till Marvel makes the network! Starting [illegible] September, the F.F and Spidey will be presented border-to-border and coast-to-coast by the American Broadcasting Company! Our fascinatin' foursome will be produced by Hanna-Barbera, while your favorite web-slinger will be filmed at the Universal City studios of Grantray-Lawrence—with both half-hour shows being [illegible] full animation and glowing color! We'll announce the premiere date real soon, but while you're waiting, be sure your TV set is in perfect condition—we wouldn't want you to miss a minute of em!

MMMS MADNESS! Here's the first detailed announcement of the revised Merry Marvel Marching Society Membership kit which [illegible]) A brand-new giant-size club pin which is too big [illegible] 2) An official recording of the toe-tapping MMMS marching song! 3) A set of swingin' stickers, featuring a bunch of Marvel characters and crazy captions! 4) A nutty new note pad! 5) An awesome assortment of magnificent Marvel mini-books! 6) A practically priceless Marvel pencil! 7) An heirloom MMMS certificate, suitable for framing or making paper airplanes! 8) Our merry membership card destined to become your most treasured possession! All the above goodies, plus the accompanying prestige and glory, will be yours for the ridiculous price of 69¢! And, those of you who are already MMMSers but would like to own the new membership kit, can buy one for the special price of 50¢, which is actually what the whole kaboodle costs us to produce! You'll find a coupon elsewhere in this ish (and probably in the next million issues to come! [illegible] you miss out on the fun 'n games, don't blame us! (You know how sensitive we are [illegible]

STAN'S SOAPBOX!

This is as good a place as any to thank you once more for being the most wonderful fans any publishing company ever had! If Marvel is on top of the heap, it's your support that's put us there! If Marvel gives you the type of mags you want, it's your letters that have told us how! And, if Marvel occasionally comes up with a clinker, go hang your head, hero! Whatever we are, you've made us! We've had a lot of laughs together, and a lot of excitement—and the best is still ahead! So face front, frantic one, Marvel's on the march—and we're not taking a step without you! On behalf of the entire batty Bullpen, to True Believers everywhere—we'll never let you down, [illegible] you're the ever-lovin' greatest!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Marvel-ous Mags on Sale Right Now!

BRAND ECHH #1: Madness in the Marvel manner! Featuring the Fantastical Four, Dr. Bloom and the Silver Burper, Sgt. Furious and his Hostile Commandos, an [illegible] between the Human Scorch and the Sunk-Mariner, and other hysterical hits!

SPIDER-MAN #51: Spidey's back in action again, the way you like him best! But this time he's bitten off more than he can chew, as he faces the frightful forces of—the Kingpin!

AVENGERS #42: Hercules dukes it out with the ever-delightful Dragon Man—as Goliath tears into his fightin' fellow Avengers! Talk about smasheroos—this one beats 'em all!

X-MEN #34: Our marvelous mutants get mixed up in one of the strangest wars of all—as Tyrannus and the macabre Mole Man struggle for supremacy far beneath the earth! Hoo boy

DAREDEVIL #30: We're still not sure how we did it! This one features Thor, the Cobra, Mr Hyde, and the most dreadful defeat that DD's suffered yet! Don't miss [illegible]

THOR #142: Remember the sensational Super Skrull? Well, he's back again, pitting [illegible] Fantastic Four against [illegible]cks! This one's a real shocker!

STRANGE TALES #159: Nick Fury goes to spy school—and wait'll you see who's playing teacher! Also, Dr. Strange faces an awesome new threat—and a menacing old foe!

SUSPENSE #92: Iron Man battles Half-Face, deep in the vastness of Viet Nam! And, Captain America meets Nick Fury once more, for the start of his most spellbinding adventure!

ASTONISH #94: Sub-Mariner faces a dire double peril, in the wily Gnome . . . and the mountainous Dragorr—while the Incredible Hulk smashes his way towards a world of mystery!

SGT. FURY #44: You demanded [illegible] so we did it! Learn how the hard-hitting Howling Commandos earned their glory-drenched nickname—on their very first mission under enemy fire! Wah-hooo!

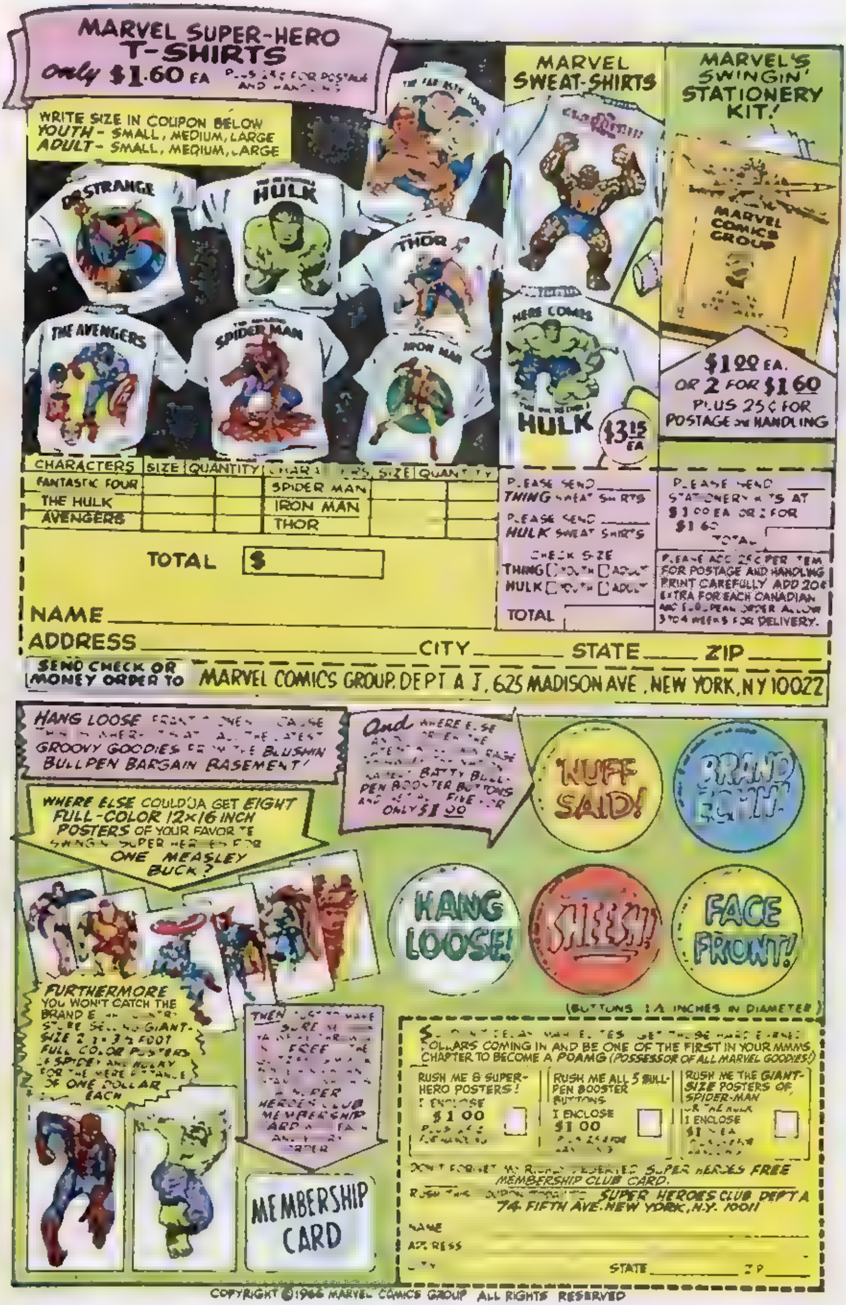
MARVEL COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS #10: The frankly fabulous F.F.—our own Jolly Green Giant—the incomparable Iron [illegible] wondrous Watcher! [illegible] any way to print a comic book? You [illegible]iger!

FANTASY MASTERPIECES #9: The origin of the original Human Torch—exactly as it first appeared! Plus, the Golden Age greatness of Cap and Subby—and three way-out wonder tales!

MARVEL TALES #9: Spidey—Thor—Torchy—and the Wasp! The biggest block-bustin' bargain this side of Honest Irv's Penny Arcade!

Let's meet 28 more M.M.M.S. members!

Hubert L. Jackson, Everset, Mass.
Thomas Yaremko, Phila., Pa.
George M. Smith, Valencia, Pa
Frankie [illegible]
Terry Fenwick, San Diego, Calif
Richard Roberts, [illegible]
Reggi Lemon, Hot Springs, Va.
Jim Jackson, Aurora, Ill
Brent Leake, Salt Lake City, Utah
John Nola, Industry, Pa.
Graham Lees, Richmond, Va.
Dan Hessler, Jr., Collins, Colo
Blair Fawcett, [illegible]
Raymond Gibson, Kaff, Miss.
Jon Jackson, Kailua, Hawaii
Paul Lenart, Chicago, Ill.
Leo C. Kajdes, Chicago, Ill.
Rick Martinelli, La Puente, Calif
Virginia L. Harmon, Ortonville, Mich.
John La Forgia, Miami, Fla.
Tony Russell, Canmore, Alberta



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Fantastic Four (4) Fan Page

Send letters to LEE and KIRBY
THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP
SECOND FLOOR 625 MADISON AV
NEW YORK 10022 N Y

Dear Stan and Jack,

I've just finished reading "The Peril and the Power" in F.F. #60. We seem to think that no puny group of freaks like the Fantastic Four can possibly overcome the mighty power of Doctor Doom! We are stationed overseas, and have been following your magazine only because our hero Doc Doom was being featured. As Doc Doom says, "And as fate has obviously ordained . . . Doctor Doom shall be Master of Earth". We feel that he should be Master of the Earth, until some power equal to his finally comes along and temporarily defeats him. As of now we have stopped reading your magazine. We will do so until Doc Doom triumphantly returns. 'Nuff said.

SP/4 John Chisari & friends,
US51587610, Tuslog Det 168,
APO, New York, N. Y. 09380

There's really nothing we can say in answer to your stark, brutal, merciless letter, Johnny! After all, it's kinda hard to talk with tears in our eyes. But, you know how greedy we are, soldier—so you can bet your bottom mess-kit that, sooner or later, we'll dream up some way to bring gloomy Doomy back again so we'll stop losing those twelve lovely little pennies of yours each month! Till then, all the best to you and your buddies, pal.

Dear Stan and Jack,

F.F. #61 was simply magnificent, superb, and outstanding, not to mention stupendous! Sandman is just beautiful in his new costume, as beautiful as the Sandman can be, and his new brain-power really grabs me. But the thing I really took a shine to was Reed's dramatically giving up his life to save Ben, Sue, and Johnny. Another point that impressed me was the hysterical Sue Richards crying out in anxiety for her husband floating in the Negative Zone towards the Explosive Zone. These were true human emotions rarely seen in story heroes, even your own great human characters. I know Reed will somehow be saved, if not by Ben, Sue, or Johnny, then by the Inhumans. My guess is that Black Bolt will speak and reverse the power of the Negative Zone. I shall now take leave of you giving you this last thought—keep those very human emotions in your characters!

Philip Witt, Box 104
Winside, Nebr.

We couldn't get rid of them if we tried, Phil! As for your guess about how rollickin' Reed would be saved, you weren't too far off—it wasn't quite Black Bolt but it was an Inhuman. So, consider yourself nominated for a fully-equipped no-prize—and, as soon as our awards committee has its next official meeting we'll put it to a vote. (Or, who *says* this isn't the Marvel Age of Painless Procrastination!)

Dear Stan and Jack,

I would like to say something in your behalf. I've had it up to here with all these complaints about having too many characters in the F.F. The F.F. is of such nature that naturally they would clash with beings such as the Inhumans, Silver Surfer, and Black Panther. Come on, readers, are you so simple-minded that you cannot stand the complex stories Stan and Jack grind out of their fertile brains? Brand Echh can keep the simple-minded stories. We want ones that challenge the imagination. Soon you'll give the Bullpen an inferiority complex. Would you rather have someone else write the F.F.? Readers, you should be ashamed of yourselves. Stop complaining!

Robert Lax, 25 Audubon Dr.
Chestnut Hill, Mass. 02167

We appreciate your impassioned defense, Bobby—but wethinks thou hast mayhap gone too far! Telling a Marvelite born to "stop complaining" is like telling Johnny Storm to stop yelling, "Flame On!" You can always tell a Marvel maniac by the fact that he's griping about something! We're used to it. We enjoy it. We'd miss it if y'all stopped. At least, your gripes and bellyaches let us know that you're still there! So, don't be too hard on the rest of our melancholy Marvelphiles, Mr. Lax—after all, it takes some people a bit longer than others to see the true and everlasting light!

Dear Stan and Jack,

Enclosed please find my tuition fees, in Canadian no-bucks, for the Sandman's instant-knowledge college. For three years now I've been knocking myself out 12 hours a day to acquire the rudiments of a scientific education while you guys know a place where a high school dropout (see Spidey #4) like the Sandman can, in just one month, obtain enough brain power not only to get past all of Mr Fantastic's defenses but also to turn his very devices against those they were designed to protect! Let's face it, you've ruined the Sandman! To me, the sum totality of Sandy's charm was that he was dumb. Marvel villains are notoriously erudite. There's Doc Doom, the Wizard, Doc Ock, etc. ad nauseum, all big-brained super-scientists; and what a relief it was to meet a cat who was stupid and whose power was a simple accident of nature, not the careful plotting of some evil genius. But, alas, Marvel hates the status quo, so another great villain bites the dust; and, instead of good old-fashioned strength and cunning, we get a few more ounces of pseudo-science for our scheckels. It's a good thing the plot and art were the best I've ever seen in a comic or I might get really frustrated. Keep up the great work on all the titles you publish but please leave our villains as they are!

Mike Glicksohn (Univ. of Toronto), 5 Lansing Ct.
Willowdale, Ont., Canada

We'll try, Mike—but Cheee—we never thought a titanic, tuition-paying tiger at the Univ. of Toronto would object to someone else bettering himself! Can't

you just visualize poor Sandman taking all those extra courses—at night, yet—cramming, studying, attending lectures, organizing demonstrations, and writing thesises—thesisi—thesisises—eh, taking notes!—And all for the purpose of one day outfoxing the FF! Then came graduation day! Sandy had made it! He had his sheepskin! The world was his oyster! But, little did he dream that Mike Glicksohn would soon take umbrage at this new development! Little did he dream that there was one who would begrudge him his hard-won education! Well, it just goes to show you—you can't please everybody! (Which is, of course, another example of our usual cowardly method of wriggling out of answering a particularly pereceptive query!) So, what else is new?

Dear Stan and Jack,

After reading F.F. #61, all I can say is that you've carried realism too far! In the good old days, one could sit back and read F.F. for enjoyment. F.F. was a unique mag, since the characters spoke and acted like real people. However, there was something in those comics that is not present in actual life or in the F.F. of today. There was hope! The stories had an easy-to-follow plot with a happy ending. By the end of the comic all problems had been straightened out. Unlike real life, good triumphed over evil in a mere 20 pages. In those good old days, there was enough realism in characterization and events to make the story believable, yet there was enough fantasy to remove one from the problems of actual living. Now, with one never-ending plot, accompanied by a hundred and one minor characters involved in never-ending sub-plots, the F.F. novel is as complex, complicated, and back-breaking as real life. The F.F.'s problems increase by the issue. Right now Reed is drifting out in Negative Space hoping to find the "final answer". I hope he does find it because nothing else in F.F. is final. Well, that's all I have to say. I know you probably won't agree with my view, but thanks for listening. Peter Marzano, 3619 61 Court
Cicero, Ill.

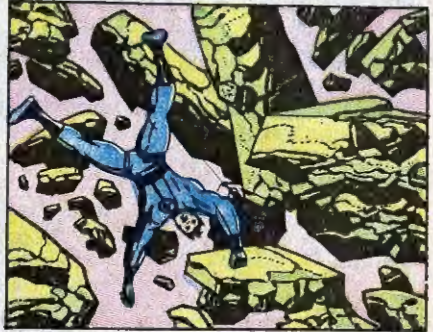
You're welcome, Petey! But, when will you learn that it doesn't matter whether or not we agree with your view? We're no more than mirrors of our frenzied fans' hopes, fears, and desires! Our views aren't nearly as important as the omnipotent opinions of the voice of Marveldom! 'Tis *you* who are the editors true! 'Tis *you* who make the monumental decisions! 'Tis you whose views are all-persuasive! And, 'tis you whom we'll never talk to again if you disagree with us just one more time!

Dear Stan and Jack,

Regarding F.F. #61, the artwork and script were fabulous, as expected of Marvel. But I have one small question—the Silver Surfer seems to be a bit confused. On the last panel of page 6 he says, "Throughout the galaxies . . . on every distant star . . . one truth is known . . . that which is reaped must one day be sown!" Doesn't he have the saying a little mixed up? I have always heard it the other way around. Please explain without going into too much detail. By the way, I think Lockjaw and the Inhumans will be the ones to rescue Mr. Fantastic from Negative Space. That's it. Hang in there.

Thomas Lewis, B63, Bucknell University
Lewisburg, Pa.

We're hangin' loose as we can, Tommy boy! But, let's see if we can explain the matter of Surfey's quaint little quote. Obviously, the usual wording is "As ye sow, so shall ye reap." (Or at least that's what we *think* it is!) Now then, we were just trying to change the phrasing a bit—to put it more in the Silver Surfer's own style—and we suddenly realize where we went astray! We *should* have said: "That which is reaped must one day *have* been sown!" Get it? Good!—Now, how about explaining it to *us*?



Dear Stan and Jack,

In one of your letters pages you said something about an Irving Forbush Handbook of Big Words. Why not? It's a great idea! All you'd have to do is get a complete dictionary, assign part of it to each Bullpenner, and write down all the big words and their definitions you find. This would save a lot of your less glib fans from developing an inferiority complex, and wouldn't hurt your ego either! Now for another suggestion—why don't you glory hounds give Flo Steinberg and all the rest of the frivolous females around the Bullpen the credit they deserve? After all, they have just as much work to do around there as you do, and knowing Stan's Jack Benny qualities, they probably get paid in lipstick instead of hard, cold cash! Who is it that keeps reminding you where you put Irving last night; who tells you which foot your shoe goes on; and who cleans up your pencil stubs for you? Who is the only one in the Bullpen who can translate your handwriting into legible form? Fabulous Flo, that's who! Stan, you will never know how much you owe that girl, but we out here in Marvel-land sure do! Our hats go off to you, oh best of secretaries! May Odin grant that Stan may become more worthy of you in the days to come, and, seeing the error of his ways, give you the boost in salary you and all of the rest of the beauties in the Bullpen deserve!

David Hakala, 5404 S. Christiana Ave.
Chicago, Ill. 60632

Y'know, it's a funny thing—this is the one letter that ol' Fab Flo typed for the printer without one single mistake! We wonder why, Dave!

NEXT ISH: Face Front! We've got a mystery for you! And what a mystery! We're gonna give you a chance to figure out who has spirited adorable Alicia away—where he took her—and why he did it! Needless to say, we're introducing another far-out character—another fantasy-filled concept—another fabulously fantastic caper! It features your favorite friends, enemies, and surprises—surprises—surprises!! Naturally, we're not trying to influence you! Far be it from us to suggest that you buy it! But, if you do happen to latch onto FF #66, we won't be the least little bit angry—and you're liable to be grateful to us till Yancy Street becomes the Rue De La Paix! Remember—FANTASTIC FOUR #66—filled to the brim with mystery—action—suspense—and a million new reasons why the ol' FF is still, more than ever, The World's Greatest Comics Magazine! And now, it's time for us to cut out—before you start thinking we're braggin'! So, till next ish—if you see a Kree, boot 'im out of his tree! 'Nuff said!

"Let me show YOU too, HOW TO MAKE YOURSELF ASTRONAUT-TOUGH

Inside and out...in double quick time —OR IT WON'T COST YOU A CENT!".

says *Ben Rebhuhn*

whom experts called today's

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Let me prove to YOU how in double quick time I can do the same for YOU. I'll put inches of dynamic muscles on your arms! Add inches to your chest! Broaden your shoulders! And power-pack the rest of your body—so quickly it will amaze you! My methods can give you the untiring endurance required of our astronauts. I have done it for thousands like you. Give me a fighting chance to do it for you.

Give me Minutes a Day

Learn My Time-Tested Secrets of Strength

Yes, in thrilling minutes a day, in your own room, my rapid-fire easy-as-abc methods start building you into a super-man the very first night. I'll show you how to build 18-inch arms of might, a heroic chest housing tireless lungs, wide manly shoulders, broad brawny back tapering to slender waist with punch-proof stomach muscles, legs of endless endurance.

I stand ready to show you a money back basis—that no matter how flabby or puny you are, I can do the same for you right in your own home, as I have for thousands of others like you. Through my proven secrets I bring to life new power in you inside and out, until YOU are fully satisfied you are the man you want to be. MY TIME TESTED METHODS RE-BUILD YOU.

WHICH OF MY 181,000 PUPILS WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE?

I GAINED 60 LBS. OF SHAPELY MIGHTY MUSCLES

says JOHN SILL

I added 7 inches to MY CHEST, 3½ INCHES to EACH ARM. No, Pal, You don't have to be a chicken-chested skinny weakling like I was only a few weeks ago.

"I LOST 30 LBS. of dangerous UGLY FAT 4 inches off my WAIST!"

says Felipe Mendaro

Which of these 2 ME'S is YOU?

"That 220 lb. FAT-BOY was ME a few weeks ago." Look at him NOW! Gave him MIGHTY MUSCLES, added 7 inches to his CHEST, 3 inches on each arm! No! I don't care how fat and flabby you are. All I want is minutes a day in your home to make you over by the same method.

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Jam-full with 120 PHOTOS of STRONG MEN and CHAMPIONS once WEAKER than you. See their pitiful BEFORE Photos and Stories. Scores of How-to-do-it Pictures show you how YOU can quickly and easily achieve astronaut-like STRENGTH, SPEED and ENDURANCE.

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NORMAN ROCKWELL—America's most beloved artist. He is a founder and member of the Guiding Faculty of the Famous Artists Schools.

"We're looking for people who like to draw"

says NORMAN ROCKWELL

Today hundreds of men and women who never thought they could be artists are working at easels and drawing boards, making pictures and getting well paid for it. They all can thank a group of famous artists who have devoted much of their time and talent to helping others find success in art.

Some of the People the Famous Artists Have Helped

Carl Koch was an 18 year old apprentice in a Chicago art studio when he enrolled. Today he prepares ads for such companies as General Motors and Firestone—has won five gold medals.

Howard Sanden of Minneapolis took the Course while still in high school. He is now a successful artist—last year he and his wife traveled through Europe and the Middle East on important art assignments.

Paul Sullivan enrolled at 14. His Famous Artists training helped him work his way through college.

Stan Bowen, father of three children, was trapped in a dull, low-paying job. By studying with FAS he became a sought-after illustrator, has opened his own studio.

With Famous Artists training Rosemary Roberts was hired by a top department store as an artist—with a big chance to advance.

Oregon housewife Helen Tryk lives 150 miles from the nearest big city. But she does fashion illustration, has her own studio, runs an art workshop, does portraits.

A Plan to Help Others

It started over 18 years ago when a group of America's most successful artists—men like Albert Dorne, Norman Rockwell, Jon Whitcomb, Al Parker and Stevan Dohanos—met in New York City. They knew that all over America there were people who liked to draw who could be turned into good artists. Albert Dorne asked, "Why can't we give these people the training they need—including all the trade secrets and know-how we've learned over the years?"

He suggested a new kind of art school—a home study art school—that would give talented people the best professional art training, no matter where they live.

The famous artists agreed. Taking time from their busy careers, they created a remarkable series of art lessons covering every aspect of drawing and painting. They illustrated their lessons with over 5,000 "here's-how" illustrations. The lessons start from scratch and cover every skill a top artist needs. Finally, they developed a wonderful way to give each student personal correction and advice all through his training.

The famous artists with the School are not surprised at the success of their students. The opportunities open to successful artists today are enormous. The School continually gets calls from all over the country asking for practical well-trained students—not geniuses—who can step into full-time or part-time art jobs. And practical, thorough training is what the School offers.

Famous Artists Talent Test

To find others with art talent worth developing, the Famous Artists created a 12-page talent test. Thousands paid to take this test, but now the School offers and grades it free. Men and women who do well on the test—or offer other evidence of art talent—may enroll in the School. But there's no obligation. Simply mail the coupon below.

FOUNDING FACULTY OF FAMOUS ARTISTS SCHOOLS

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GEORGE GIUSTI	HAROLD VON SCHMIDT
PETER HELCK	ALBERT DORNE

Famous Artists Schools
Studio 5265, Westport, Conn.

I would like to find out whether I have art talent worth developing. Please send me, without obligation, your Famous Artists Talent Test and information about your courses.

Mr. / Mrs. / Miss ← *Circle one and please print* ____ *Age* ____

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